If you need all or part of this publication in an alternative format please contact us:
Tel +44 (0)117 394 1649
Email choosebristol-ug@bristol.ac.uk

Enquiries Team
Tel +44 (0)117 394 1649
Email choosebristol-ug@bristol.ac.uk

If you have any questions about courses, applications or student life at Bristol, please contact the Enquiries Team.

Photography
Bhagesh Sachania, Dan Rowley, James Barke, Nick Riddle
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Veterinary Science
Undergraduate study
Our veterinary science courses allow you to become a skilful and knowledgeable graduate, adept at problem solving, innovation and entrepreneurship, with an appetite for lifelong learning.

We offer you a vibrant city experience at our Bristol campus, combined with immersion in animal science and welfare at our rural site in Langford. You will receive a strong scientific education alongside exceptional professional skills training, enabling you to succeed in a wide range of careers.

Our veterinary science degrees are currently awaiting accreditation from the American Veterinary and Medical Association (AVMA). This accreditation will set you on the path to practise veterinary medicine in the US and Canada. Please see bristol.ac.uk/ug20-vetscience for the most up-to-date information.

Bristol Veterinary School links with other areas of health sciences, including veterinary nursing, medicine, dentistry and anatomy, to give you an excellent pre-clinical education taught by leading academics in medical and scientific research. This allows you to become acquainted with current thinking in a range of scientific fields and gives you a broad base of knowledge for the start of clinical teaching.

Bristol has been training veterinary professionals for over 60 years. We are known for providing an outstanding education in animal science, animal welfare and veterinary public health, and for approaching veterinary science from a global perspective. Our curriculum is innovative, informed by current research, and delivered in a friendly and supportive environment.

The Langford campus
All veterinary students will spend time at our Langford campus on the edge of the Mendip Hills. It is home to Langford Vets, which provides an extensive range of specialist services. Facilities include referral hospitals, first-opinion practices, a full diagnostic laboratory service, and a 250-acre dairy and sheep farm. Clinics are supported by specialised clinicians, diagnostic imagers, anaesthetists, nurses and other support staff.

The campus is a hub for cutting-edge research, which is focused on two areas:
• population health
• global food security.

Langford has many facilities on site, including a café, a library, a student common room and study spaces, a gym, and squash and tennis courts. Langford and the surrounding villages are well served by shops and pubs.

Why study veterinary science at Bristol?

The staff are all really engaging, and I’ve met some friends for life. I definitely made the right decision coming here.'

Liz (BVSc Veterinary Science)
BVSc Veterinary Science

BVSc Veterinary Science D100, five years

What will you study?
Our curriculum introduces you to the integrated structure and function of healthy animals, followed by the mechanisms of disease and their clinical management.

Year one starts with a six-week foundation course in animal health sciences, covering anatomy, physiology and biochemistry. You will continue to focus on animal health sciences for the remainder of year one and part of year two, and you will have hands-on experience of animal management from your first year.

In years two and three you will study animal disease – immunology, microbiology, parasitology and pharmacology – followed by clinical management in years three and four. This covers basic clinical science, therapeutics, and farm and companion animal sciences.

Vertical themes run through the course to build your core competencies and subject-specific knowledge. These instil vital professional skills, as well as an understanding of animal health and welfare and veterinary public health across all disciplines.

Between years three and four you can choose to intercalate onto an additional degree, enhancing your career prospects and giving you the option to explore a developing interest. See bristol.ac.uk/intercalate for details.

Most lecture-based teaching is completed by the end of year four, giving you an almost lecture-free final year. In year five, you will work alongside clinical staff and your peers to provide veterinary care for a wide range of species.

Where will you study?
Our course offers you both lively city living and a beautiful rural setting in which to develop your understanding of veterinary science. For the first three years you will be based on the Bristol campus, with at least one day a week spent at Langford – on these days, we offer free transport between Bristol and Langford. Years four and five are based at Langford, although you will also spend time off-site at clinical placements. Most of our students move to Langford for years four and five.

In years two and three you will have hands-on experience of animal management from your first year.

You’ll study in the heart of Bristol and at our Langford campus, a beautiful 255-hectare estate on the edge of the Mendips equipped with state-of-the-art facilities.

BVSc Veterinary Science (D100) is accredited by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS), as well as the European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE), the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council (AvBC) and the South African Veterinary Council.

How will you study?
Teaching methods include lectures, tutorials, seminars, case-based learning and practical classes. We nurture lifelong learning skills through self-directed education, incorporating problem-based learning and individual and group projects. Teaching material is available online and many lectures are recorded, allowing you to review the content later.

During your time with us we assess a range of skills, which include knowledge and understanding, problem solving, clinical reasoning, professionalism and practical skills. A high aggregate score across the course may result in a BVSc with Merit or Distinction.

‘The teaching staff are exceptionally skilled and passionate about what they do, which is really inspiring. Everyone is very friendly, accessible and welcoming.’

Monisha (BVSc Veterinary Science)

You’ll study in the heart of Bristol and at our Langford campus, a beautiful 255-hectare estate on the edge of the Mendips equipped with state-of-the-art facilities.
Making your application

Visit bristol.ac.uk/ug20-vetscience for more information about the course.

Typical offer for BVSc Veterinary Science

A-levels AAA or A*AB in any order to include Chemistry and one of Biology, Physics or Mathematics (contextual AAC in any order to include Chemistry and one of Biology, Physics or Mathematics or ABB including Chemistry and one of Biology, Physics or Mathematics).

IB Diploma 36 points overall (contextual 32) with 18 at Higher Level (contextual 16), including 6 at Higher level in Chemistry and 6 at Higher Level (contextual 5) in one of Biology, Physics or Mathematics.

Our contextual offer is a grade reduction of up to two grades below the standard entry requirements, made to applicants from under-represented groups. Find out more at bristol.ac.uk/contextual-offers.

GCSEs Standard numeracy requirement (4 or C in GCSE Mathematics or equivalent) and standard literacy requirement (4 or C in GCSE English or equivalent).

Selection process UCAS and supplementary information form. Applicants may be interviewed.

For other accepted qualifications, and for our English language requirements, visit bristol.ac.uk/ug20-vetscience.

Application advice for veterinary science courses

We are looking for students who are passionate about studying veterinary science and have the outlook and qualities needed to become an excellent vet. Work experience is also required. Those who meet our academic and work experience criteria will be evaluated via a supplementary form to assess their suitability for the course.

Applicants are advised to read the admissions statement at bristol.ac.uk/ug20-vetscience. This contains full details of our admissions policies and entry criteria, including required work experience.

Due to the nature of the course, all offers are subject to clearance from the Occupational Health Service.

Further information

Find out more about Bristol Veterinary School: bristol.ac.uk/vetscience.

Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons: www.rcvs.org.uk.

This information is correct at the time of printing (May 2019), but we recommend you check the University website for the latest information: bristol.ac.uk/ug20-vetscience.
Gateway to Veterinary Science

Gateway to Veterinary Science D108, one year (plus five years)
Our one-year Gateway to Veterinary Science course is a widening participation initiative targeted at UK students who have the potential to become vets but do not meet the academic entry criteria to apply directly to BVSc Veterinary Science. We have specific entry criteria for this course, which are available at bristol.ac.uk/ug20-vetscience.

You will spend the year at our Clifton campus developing your knowledge of the basic sciences that underpin veterinary science. Veterinary and related animal work experience will form part of the course. Successful completion of the Gateway course will enable you to automatically progress to the five-year BVSc Veterinary Science course.

Entry requirements
A-levels BBC including B in Biology or Chemistry. Applicants with predicted or achieved grades of AAB or above, or with A in Chemistry, are not eligible for this course.

GCSEs Standard literacy requirement (4 or C in GCSE English or equivalent), standard numeracy requirement (4 or C in GCSE Mathematics or equivalent) and two higher science requirements (6, 6 or BB in GCSE Science or equivalent).

Candidates are selected for interview based on their academic profiles and personal statement.

For other accepted qualifications, and for our English language requirements, visit bristol.ac.uk/ug20-vetscience.

Due to the nature of the course, all offers are subject to clearance from the Occupational Health Service.

This course is open to applicants from specific schools and colleges in the UK only. Lists of the eligible schools and colleges, as well as full details of our admissions policies and entry criteria, can be found in the admissions statement at bristol.ac.uk/ug20-vetscience.

I would definitely recommend this course to anyone who is serious about becoming a vet, but just needs a little more help to get there. It is an extra year, but I feel I have had an advantage. It has helped me both academically and professionally.

Cheyenne (Gateway to Veterinary Science)

Accelerated Graduate Entry

BVSc Veterinary Science: Accelerated Graduate Entry D102, four years
Our new fast-track programme for science graduates enables completion of BVSc Veterinary Science in four years instead of five.

What will I study?
In years one and two, you will study the integrated structure and function of animals, principles of disease, clinical veterinary science and professional studies. In year three, the course will integrate with the five-year BVSc Veterinary Science to further develop your clinical and professional skills.

How will I study?
Designed to support independent, self-directed and collaborative learning, the course adopts best practice in adult education. We deliver a strong scientific education combined with exceptional professional skills training, enabling you to succeed in a wide range of careers. During the course, you will be guided through case-based, tutor-facilitated teaching and learning. This is a distinctive, student-led approach that sets the course apart from other graduate entry programmes in the UK.

Where will I study?
This course is taught entirely on the Langford campus, although you will spend some time off-site at clinical placements in later years. Case-based learning takes place in purpose-designed seminar rooms, and anatomy is taught in a new anatomy/post-mortem facility.

‘As a graduate entry veterinary student myself, I feel passionately about providing opportunities to those who make the choice to train as a vet later on. This course focuses on a student-centred approach in small groups, with lots of tutor support.’

Professor Richard Hammond, Head of Bristol Veterinary School

bristol.ac.uk/ug-study
Extra-mural studies

Extra-mural studies (EMS) is a mandatory RCVS requirement for all veterinary programmes in the UK. You must complete 38 weeks of EMS during university vacation in years one to four and scheduled EMS time in your final year. The 38 weeks is made up of twelve weeks of pre-clinical placements in years one and two and twenty-six weeks of clinical placements in years three to five.

We have good relationships with EMS providers across the UK and a dedicated, friendly EMS team at Langford. Your first placement at Easter will be lambing and this can be arranged for you if you wish. The team can also offer help with finding subsequent placements and completing your RCVS student experience log.

We encourage students to spend around ten to 14 weeks of EMS in a practice or practices which they intend to return to over years three, four and five. This allows you to develop an ongoing relationship with the practice, and you will have greater opportunities to learn and contribute to its work than you can expect on other placements.

Some of our previous students have been offered jobs at the end of their course by their EMS placement providers.

97 per cent of BVSc Veterinary Science graduates were in work or further study six months after graduation.

Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education, graduates from 2016/17

Post-offer visit days

If we make you an offer, you will be invited to attend a post-offer visit day, during which you will have the opportunity to explore aspects of the University’s Clifton campus and Bristol Veterinary School’s Langford campus. During your visit to Langford, you will undertake a series of activities with other offer holders to give you a sense of the types of experiences you will have studying Veterinary Science at Bristol.

Our veterinary students’ society, Centaur, organises a ‘parenting’ scheme, which supports you before arriving and in your first year. Centaur also provides further support throughout the course, including welfare representatives for pre-clinical and clinical students. Students elect year representatives who are members of many vet school committees, enabling feedback on academic and pastoral issues. An elected student represents the student body at national level.

Read more about how we support you when you are here: bristol.ac.uk/students.

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You will have opportunities for overseas EMS and research placements (up to six weeks clinical). Previous overseas placements have included the Hong Kong Jockey Club, the Blue Paw Trust in Sri Lanka and Mission Rabies in India.

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Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education, graduates from 2016/17

What support can you expect?

The University’s support package includes a health service, disability services, a counselling service and a multi-faith chaplaincy. You will be allocated a personal tutor who will offer support and guidance on academic issues and provide opportunities to reflect on your personal and professional development. We have an open-door policy, which gives you easy access to feedback and guidance from academic staff.

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‘The vet school has a real community feel; all students from first year to fifth are integrated into academic and social events. Lecturers are supportive, and your personal tutor provides support when you need it.’

Stephanie (BVSc Veterinary Science)